

imaginative engineering

IN THIS EDITION

Multiple M 5630 Cut length machine projects

Machine safety

A new face: Ton van Haren

Multiple M 5630 Cut length machine projects in 2020

For ETF, 2020 will be remembered as an exceptional year. Not only due to the pandemic, but also for having the privilege of realizing 8 high volume cut length machines M 5630 for the cut to order market.



Dear Reader,

At the beginning of a new year, it is common to wish one another a healthy, happy and successful new year. More than ever before, these wishes apply to 2021, both privately and professionally.

We all faced many challenges last year and it is still unclear how the current pandemic that has gripped the world, will develop. However, I feel that we can see now the light at the end of the tunnel. At the same time, we are also seeing some positivity in our customers and you, like us, are looking ahead. We were therefore very positively surprised about the orders we received in 2020. A substantial number of projects, especially cut length machinery projects, are on the books for 2021 and we hope to share some of these with you in a next edition.

In March we celebrate the 70th anniversary of ETF! We are very proud to be one of the few companies in our field that has reached this age and is still one of the leading companies in the field of material handling for the floorcoverings, non-wovens, etc. In fact, in order to cope with all the recent internal and external developments, we have started a process to improve our organization and to become even more efficient.

I sincerely hope that 2021 allows us to all meet in person again soon.

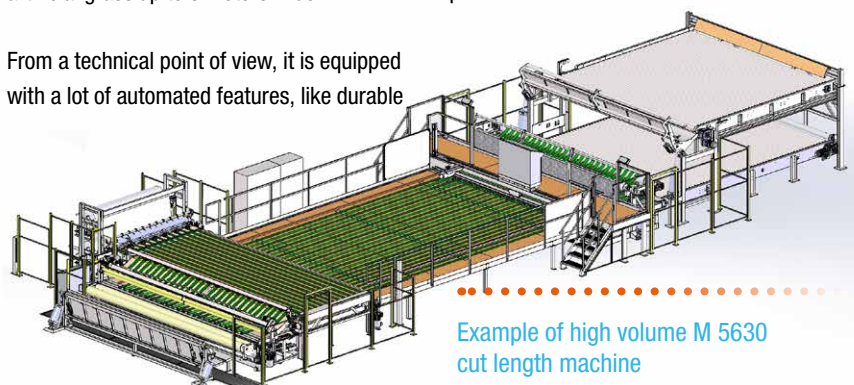
Ruud Koppens, President

The order portfolio has been well filled for ETF Machinefabriek in 2020, including a couple of large projects based on multiple ETF M 5630 cut length machines. Most of these projects also included a custom finished, cut length handling and sorting system for an automated and mostly optimized cut length processing.

The ETF M 5630 cut length machinery range has proved itself to be reliable throughout the years and, once confirmed by the previously mentioned order intake, well valued by floorcoverings producers and wholesalers. These machines are able to produce up to 500 consumer cut lengths per shift and can handle a wide range of materials, including carpet, needle punch, non-woven, vinyl and artificial grass up to 5 meters wide.

From a technical point of view, it is equipped with a lot of automated features, like durable

bi-directional cross cutting, slitting, a precise - contact free - laser measuring unit or an optional 90 degrees carpet rotating feature. Operation is easy thanks to a central touch screen. Additionally, most machines are directly linked to a customer's computer system for direct data transfer. At the inlet side of the machine, ETF's heavy duty supply- and discharge table offers much room for buffering new, as well as already processed, parent rolls that are waiting to be taken back to the storage racks by the pin truck driver. At the outlet side, there is a fully automatic rolling unit which can roll up and simultaneously pack consumer cut lengths at high speeds while guaranteeing an accurate edge straightness. Of course, all the latest safety regulations are incorporated for safe operation.



Example of high volume M 5630 cut length machine

One of these projects was recently completed for the Headlam Group in the UK. The system is based upon two parallel cut length machines and an extensive rack sorting system, including a central elevator console.

Early this year we will complete another two multi cutting machine projects. One of these is quite unique as, for the first time in history, as far as we know, two high volume cutting

machines will be placed above each other. We will report in more depth on this project in the next ETF News.

And, last but not least, ETF has also moved an 18 year old cut length machine to a new location. It is now ready again for many more years of operation. A project like this proves that, once again, ETF cut length machines are built to last!

Machine safety

Machine safety requires to be taken very seriously during the engineering phase. Because the machine performance, ease of operation, and safety are inextricably linked.

During the sales phase, the ETF Sales person will work with the team of ETF engineers to ensure that the machine design meets the above criteria. The aim is to obtain a machine that can be used safely, both in its intended manner as well as in the event of any reasonably foreseeable misuse or abnormal circumstances. To achieve this goal, ETF follows the machinery guideline and the “harmonized EN standards”. This method is applied to new machines and partly also for any modifications to machines for which the directives and standards apply.



For most ETF machines, this means that a full risk analysis and a technical file is drawn up according to the guideline and standards. For the operator of an ETF machine, this means that the machine functions properly and is safe and practical to operate. Not only that, but that the machine is also supplied with the operating and maintenance manuals in the language of the country where the machine is delivered. This approach gives the machine a formal CE approval. It is then up to the customer to maintain the machine in terms of machine performance, operation, and safety.

A new face

Ton van Haren (46) joined the sales team as Area Sales Manager on 9 November 2020. Ton has succeeded Bart van den Brand who decided to pursue a career elsewhere after working at ETF for 12.5 years.



After finishing his study in Mechanical Engineering at the TU Eindhoven, the Netherlands, in 2000, Ton started working in IT consultancy. However, since 2008, he has been working as a Sales Manager in a B2B environment. His extensive sales experience, gained within markets such as medical, defence and automotive, ranges from account management to NBD within the worlds of metalworking and machinery.

After an extensive traineeship period, Ton will be the representative of ETF Machinefabriek for many regions including the UK, Belgium, Central- and Southern Europe, Russia, and the Far East.



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